


Government of the District of Columbia
Office of the Chief Financial Officer



Natwar M. Gandhi
Chief Financial Officer

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Phil Mendelson
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

FROM: Natwar M. Gandhi
Chief Financial Officer 

DATE: November 22, 2013

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement – “Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Automated External Defibrillator Requirements Amendment Act of 2013”

REFERENCE: Bill 20-123– Draft Committee Print shared with the Office of Revenue Analysis on November 19, 2013

Conclusion

Funds are not sufficient in the FY 2014 through FY 2017 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

Placing automated external defibrillators (AEDs) in every school and developing a program to monitor and train personnel on cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and AED use will cost approximately \$1.2 million in the first year of the implementation and approximately \$2.4 million over the four year financial period.

The implementation of the bill is subject to its inclusion in an approved budget.

Background

The bill requires the placement of AEDs in each District school¹ at all locations where athletic activities take place. District of Columbia Public Schools, public charter schools and private schools would have 120 days after the effective date of the bill to comply with this requirement.

AEDs are portable machines that are used to treat sudden cardiac arrest by checking an individual's heart rhythm and applying an electric shot to restore a normal rhythm.² Of the 354 public and

¹ School is defined as any elementary or secondary education school located in the District. This would total 354 individual school locations including public, public charter and private schools.

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FIS: Bill 20-123, "Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Automated External Defibrillator Requirements Amendment Act of 2013," Draft Committee Print shared with the Office of Revenue Analysis on November 19, 2013.

private school buildings that would be covered under this bill, approximately nine are registered with the Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department (FEMS) as having acquired AEDs.³

Schools acquiring an AED would still be required to register with FEMS, as is the case under current law. However, the bill requires the Mayor to develop a CPR and AED program that would help schools establish procedures for responding to a cardiac incident, testing and maintaining machines, and training appropriate school personnel.⁴ The bill also requires that trained personnel are present during school operations and any athletic activity. Training may be performed internally or by a private entity.

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are not sufficient in the FY 2014 through FY 2017 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The implementation of the bill will cost approximately \$1.2 million in the first year and approximately \$2.4 million over the four year financial period. The implementation of the bill is subject to its inclusion in an approved budget.

There are three areas of cost to the bill—equipment, programmatic oversight, and training—outlined in the chart below. First, the District government would have to purchase and install AEDs in buildings under the District's control. This includes 124 schools. District's private, parochial and public charter schools will have to pay for this equipment through their own resources (AEDs cost approximately \$1,500 per unit). Second the District would have to provide oversight for the program. Third the District would have to provide training for school staff. The estimate assumes that the training will be made available to all public schools including charter schools. It also assumes that, given the 120 day allowance, the bill will be implemented in FY 2015.

Estimated Fiscal Impact of Bill 20-123 "Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Automated External Defibrillator Requirements Amendment Act of 2013"					
FY 2014 through FY 2017					
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014-2017
Personnel^(a)	\$0	\$289,374	\$298,056	\$306,997	\$894,427
Equipment^(b)	\$0	\$592,300	\$56,730	\$56,730	\$705,760
Training^(c)	\$0	\$343,500	\$34,350	\$377,850	\$755,700
TOTAL:	\$0	\$1,225,174	\$389,136	\$741,577	\$2,355,887

(a) Personnel costs assume one physician to oversee the program⁵ (with an average hourly wage of \$64.47) and one full time coordinator (Grade 14, Step 5) to manage the equipment and training requirements.

(b) Equipment costs assume 3 AEDs per DCPS school due to the bill's requirement that AEDs must be present at all athletic events. Actual number may be more or less at any given school. A ten per cent replacement and/or new equipment cost is assumed in out years.

(c) Training costs assume 20 individuals at each of the 229 public schools will be trained, at a cost of \$75 per training session. The training must be renewed every two years, and it is assumed that ten percent will need new training due to attrition or new hires.

² For more information on AEDs, see the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute's website. (<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/health-topics/topics/aed/>)

³ Testimony of Emily Durso, Interim State Superintendent of Education on July 1, 2013.

⁴ The bill requires that athletic coaches, coaching assistants, athletic trainers, athletic directors, team or game physicians and school nurses be trained in CPR and AED within 30 days of hire date.

⁵ As required by D.C. Official Code § 44-232(3).